

January 15, 2003

LEGAL NOTICE

The Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Environmental Management Bureau in Helena, MT has completed a five-year bond review for Weaver Gravel Inc.'s rock quarry near Columbia Falls, MT as required by the Metal Mine Reclamation Act, 82-4-338(3), MCA.

Weaver Gravel Inc. (Weaver) filed an application in May 2002 for an amendment to Operating Permit 00151 from DEQ pursuant to the Metal Mine Reclamation Act, Section 82-4-342. An environmental assessment was prepared and the amendment was approved in October 2002.

DEQ previously held a reclamation bond of \$19,000 for reclamation of the quarry disturbances. DEQ determined as part of the bond review process that an increase in the bond was required to guarantee reclamation of the 55.1 acres of permitted disturbance at the site. DEQ calculated and published for public comment a proposed bond determination of \$53,149 which included two years of inflation. Annual inflation adjustments for the following three years would be submitted with the company's annual reports raising the total bond to \$57,092. The proposed bond amount was published and company and public comments were solicited. No comments were received by DEQ. Therefore, the total final bond will be \$57,092.

Weaver and any person with an interest that may be adversely affected by the final bond determination may request a contested case hearing before the Board of Environmental Review within 30 days of this publication. Weaver Gravel has posted the bond. If a hearing is requested and conducted, the final bond amount may change.

A copy of the bond calculations that form the basis for the proposed bond determination can be obtained by contacting the Montana Department of Environmental Quality, Environmental Management Bureau, P. O. Box 200901, 1520 E. Sixth Ave., Helena, MT 59620-0901, or by calling Patrick Plantenberg at (406) 444-4960 or e-mail at pplantenberg@state.mt.us.